

Dear [local and tribal participant in the GKM AC/IC],

As the field emergency response activities related to the Gold King Mine Spill are now almost completed and the EPA is transitioning to long-term mitigation, the Incident Command staff will gradually demobilize and the Incident Command Post in Durango will close by the end of this month. Regional and Headquarters staff have already assumed most of the long-term response roles.

The water and sediment impacted by the Aug. 5 Gold King Mine release remain at pre-event conditions, and construction is underway for a water treatment facility to manage water quality over the winter. The Superfund Removal Program will continue to work on stabilizing the mine. The Superfund Removal Program and the Office of Water are now finalizing the Conceptual Monitoring Plan for the Gold King Mine release and will conduct the first round of sampling this fall.

Regional staff will continue to coordinate with local, state, and tribal nations and conduct in-person visits to impacted communities to ensure close consultation on these long-term efforts. As Community Involvement Coordinator, I will be periodically on-site in Durango and Silverton, and EPA will make every effort to maintain a high level of responsiveness to local needs.

Should you have any concerns related to these changes or suggestions for a smooth transition, please feel free to contact me at, 303-312-6879.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Peterson

Community Involvement Coordinator and Liaison

DRAFT